

by these agencies is commendable, needs to be a model throughout the Nation.

I would ask that Members wear these little blue ribbons today.

WHITE HOUSE NOT COOPERATING WITH INVESTIGATIONS

(Mr. BRADY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BRADY. Mr. Speaker, I sometimes wonder why investigations take so long around here. Maybe you do as well. I know that the White House has insisted that they are cooperating fully with the various investigations and investigators charged with finding out the truth about the illegal campaign contributions in the last elections. But I think I now know why we are having so much trouble getting there.

There are 92 witnesses, that is 92 witnesses have either fled the country or taken the fifth amendment, refused to testify. When you are not afraid to tell the truth, if there is nothing to hide, why would 92 American citizens flee this country or hide behind the fifth amendment?

When the FBI director, Louis Freeh, was asked last year if he had ever seen this before, the only similarity he could draw was during the 16 years he spent investigating organized crime cases. I do not know if this is organized crime, but I know the White House is saying it is cooperating fully, but no one is cooperating.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM INVESTIGATION STYMIED AT EVERY TURN

(Mr. SESSIONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, during the past few days, we have heard a lot about the ability to hear from witnesses in an objective investigation of the facts surrounding campaign financing. All I hear from the Democrats is that Congress must vote on campaign finance reform.

Well, my committee, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, is trying to find out what is wrong with campaign financing. But our investigation had been stymied at every single turn. There are witnesses who have been unavailable to the committee, 46 witnesses who have refused to testify, asserting protections against self-incrimination, and 12 witnesses who have fled the country.

Incredibly, the Democrats on the committee have refused to allow immunity for witnesses that Janet Reno, the Attorney General, says should have immunity. Mr. Speaker, this will prevent us from hearing from those witnesses. My question to the Democrats is this: What are you attempting to hide?

NATIONAL SECURITY DEMONSTRATION SET FOR WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

(Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, to begin the markup of the National Defense Authorization bill this week, I want to call to the attention of our colleagues two significant events that will take place tomorrow and Thursday involving national security and threats from weapons of mass destruction.

All day tomorrow in the Rayburn courtyard, we will have a full demonstration of one of our leading new technologies, the Theater High Altitude Area Defense system as well as a Scud missile, the type of missile that killed our 28 troops in Saudi Arabia just 7 years ago. I would encourage our colleagues to visit that exhibit.

On Thursday, we will have 2,000 fire and EMS leaders from across the country assemble in Washington. At noon, we will have a major rally outside the doors of this Chamber to focus on the need for first responders to get full attention and focus as we plus-up money to respond to terrorist acts involving weapons of mass destruction nationwide.

I would encourage our colleagues to visit both events and to become active participants in the rally and the event from our fire and EMS leaders from all of our 50 States.

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ELIMINATE THE MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY NOW

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, the question today is, why pass the Marriage Tax Elimination Act? I believe this series of questions best illustrates why.

Do Americans feel that it is fair that working married couples with two incomes pay higher taxes just because they are married? Do Americans feel that it is fair that 21 million married working couples pay, on the average, \$1,400 more just because they are married than an identical couple with an identical income living together outside of marriage? Do Americans feel that it is fair that our Tax Code actually provides an incentive to get divorced?

Of course not. That is wrong, and that is why elimination of the marriage tax penalty is so important.

If we think about it, 21 million married working couples, 42 million Americans, pay on the average of \$1,400 more just because they are married. That is one year's tuition at Joliet Junior College in the south suburbs of Chicago; three months in a local day care center. It is real money for real people.

Mr. Speaker, let us eliminate the marriage penalty. Let us eliminate it now.

CONGRESS SHOULD MOVE AGGRESSIVELY TO PUT SOCIAL SECURITY FIRST

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, a word on Social Security. Today the Social Security trustees released the annual report on their new projections when Social Security runs short of money to pay benefits. Because of the economic growth, because of the good economy with more jobs and higher incomes, they are now projecting that we are going to have an extra year or so before Social Security has less tax revenue coming in than is required to pay benefits. We still have a very, very serious problem.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House and the Senate, I urge the President not to use this as an excuse to delay and put off and not deal with the serious problems of Social Security. The current good economy is an opportunity to move ahead with long term solutions giving more flexibility for transition.

Mr. Speaker, Social Security is one of the important problems that is facing us right now with an unfunded liability of over \$3 trillion. Let us move ahead aggressively with a solution and really put Social Security first.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5, rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded voted or the yeas and the nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 5 p.m. today.

RHINO AND TIGER PRODUCT LABELING ACT

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2807) to amend the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 to prohibit the sale, importation, and exportation of products labeled as containing substances derived from rhinoceros or tiger, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2807

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Rhino and Tiger Product Labeling Act".